

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendment and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-12, 14-18, and 20-23 are pending; no claims are newly added, amended, or canceled herewith.

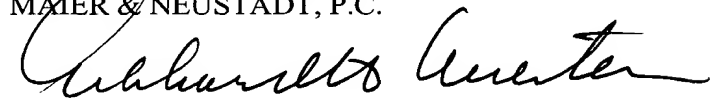
The present amendment addresses an informality in the specification. Support for this amendment may be found, for example, in the specification at page 25, lines 21-27. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

The present amendment is provided in response to a notice from the United States Patent Office mailed October 5, 2005. Because the present amendment addresses an informality in the specification, no additional search or examination is required. Similarly, because the claims have not been amended, they remain patentable. This amendment was presented at the Applicants' earliest opportunity upon notification by the Patent Office of the informality.

Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that this application remains in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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